

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

In the specification, paragraphs have been amended on pages 1-6, 9, 10, and 12.

Claims 1 and 2 remain under consideration. Claim 1 is currently being amended. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Claims 1 and 2 of this divisional application were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2 as being indefinite, based on the use of "if any" in step (e) of claim 1. In view of this usage of "if any," the examiner has indicated that the step (e) "has not been fully examined."

In reply to the Office Action, Applicant has amended claim 1 to delete the usage of "if any." Accordingly, it is believed that the claims are definite. Further, it is respectfully submitted that step (e) of claim 1 is not or suggested in the prior art described in reference to Fig. 3. That is, the admitted prior art fails to disclose a step of "selectively etching said gate insulating layer together with a piece of residual amorphous silicon connected between two of said plural amorphous silicon layers to form contact slits in said gate insulating layer, a piece of conductive material between one of said plural gate layers and an adjacent storage electrode layer being exposed to one of said contact slits." Therefore, it is submitted that claims 1 and 2 are patentable over the admitted prior art.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

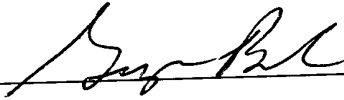
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment,


to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 11/1/04

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5407
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By  *RN 38072*

 David A. Blumenthal
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 26,257